Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (canceled).

1   Claim 15 (currently amended): The method recited in
2   claim [14]. 26 further comprising the steps of:
3   collecting and analyzing, through the [predefined]
4   system, [interactive] participant input registered in [all]
5   each one of the participant devices so as to yield analyzed
6   results; and
7   delivering the analyzed results from the system, via
8   the network, back to each one of the [viewers] participants
9   through the corresponding one of the participant devices
10   [device] and the client application executing thereat.

Claims 16-19 (canceled).

1   Claim 20 (currently amended): The method recited in
2   claim [14] 26 wherein the interactive client application is
3   downloaded from an Internet site associated with the
4   broadcast television program.

1   Claim 21 (currently amended): The method recited in
2   claim [14] 26 wherein the network comprises the Internet.

1 Claim 22 (currently amended): The method recited in

2 claim [14] 26 wherein the broadcast television program is a

3 television game show.

Claims 23-25 (canceled).

1 Claim 26 (new): A method for implementing a broadcast

2 television program with interactive participation of a

3 plurality of participants, each of the participants viewing

4 and interacting with the broadcast television program

5 through an interactive client application executing on a

6 corresponding one of a plurality of participant devices, all

7 of the participant devices being capable of connecting, via

8 a communications network, to a system that directs an

9 interactive part of a broadcast show, the method comprising

10 the steps of:

11   registering at a given time in advance of the broadcast

12 of the television program, via the network and through the

13 system, each participant as a potential participant

14 interested in interacting with the broadcast television

15 program;

16   after said registering step, downloading, from the

17 system and through connections established over the network,

18 a first part of the interactive client application, during a

19 time window dictated by the system, to all of the

20 participant devices, the time window starting after the

21 given time but expiring at a predefined time prior to

22 broadcast of the television program, the time window having

23 a given width sufficient to minimize simultaneous

24 downloading of the client application by a plurality of the

25 participant devices;

26   starting and running the client application on each one

27   of the participant devices parallel to and synchronized with

28   the television program as the program is being broadcast but

29   while said each one of the participant devices is not

30   connected, via the network, to the system;

31   during the broadcast of the television program,

32   registering input from each one of the participants on each

33   corresponding one of the participant devices so as to define

34   participant input; and

35   during a corresponding one of a plurality of

36   time-slots, re-establishing a network connection, by each

37   one of the participant devices, to the system and submitting

38   the participant input to the system, via the network, from

39   said each one of the participant devices, the corresponding

40   one time-slot being previously specified to said each one

41   participant device and occurring during or after the

42   broadcast of the television program.

1   Claim 27 (new): The method recited in claim 26 further

2   comprising the steps of, after the time window expires but

3   before broadcast of the television program starts:

4   logging on by and validating all of the participants by

5   the system; and

6   downloading, by the system and in response to the

7   logging on and validating step, a second part of the

8   interactive client application to all of the participant

9   devices, the second part comprising synchronization

10   information for synchronizing execution of the client

11   application, associated with each of the participant

12   devices, with the television program as the program is being

13   broadcast.

1   Claim 28 (new): The method recited in claim 27 wherein the
2   second part of the interactive client application, for said
3   one of the participant devices, also specifies the
4   corresponding one time-slot during which said one of the
5   participant devices submits its associated participant
6   input, via the network, to the system.

1   Claim 29 (new): An interactive broadcast directing system
2   for implementing a broadcast television program with
3   interactive participation of a plurality of participants,
4   each of the participants viewing and interacting with the
5   broadcast television program through an interactive client
6   application executing on a corresponding one of a plurality
7   of participant devices, all of the participant devices being
8   capable of connecting, via a communications network, to the
9   system, the system comprising:
10   a registration system which registers at a given time
11   in advance of the broadcast of the television program, via
12   the network, each participant as a potential participant
13   interested in interacting with the broadcast television
14   program;
15   an application download system which:
16   downloads, through connections established through
17   the network, a first part of the interactive client
18   application, during a time window dictated by the directing
19   system, to all of the participant devices, the time window
20   starting after the given time but expiring at a predefined
21   time prior to broadcast of the television program, the time
22   window having a given width sufficient to minimize
23   simultaneous downloading of the client application by a
24   plurality of the participant devices; and
25   said each one of the participant devices which:

26   executes the client application in parallel with
27   and synchronized to the television program as the program is
28   being broadcast but while said each one of the participant
29   devices is not connected, via the network, to the system;
30   and

31   during the broadcast of the television program,
32   registers input from a corresponding one of the participants
33   so as to define participant input; and

34   during a corresponding one of a plurality of
35   time-slots, re-establishes a network connection to the
36   broadcast directing system and submits the participant input
37   to the registration system, via the network, the
38   corresponding one time-slot being previously specified to
39   said each one participant device and occurring during or
40   after the broadcast of the television program.

1   Claim 30 (new): The system recited in claim 29 further
2   comprising a score delivery system which analyzes the
3   participant input from all of the participants and provided
4   by all of the participant devices so as to yield analyzed
5   results and delivers the analyzed results back to said each
6   one of the participants through the corresponding one
7   participant device and the client application executing
8   thereat.

1   Claim 31 (new): The system recited in claim 29 wherein the
2   network comprises the Internet.